

Calls 233,742 Draft Men to Service

GAIN ADVANTAGE ON AMIENS FRONT

British in Local Attacks in Vicinity of Villers-Bretonneux, Before Amiens.

RAIDS END WITH SUCCESS

Artillery Fighting Active on Northern Front and on Arras Salient.

(Associated Press.) London, May 3.—In the neighborhood of Villers-Bretonneux on the front before Amiens, the British gained the advantage in local fighting during the night, the war office announced.

On the northern front there was active artillery fighting, especially near Givenchy, the forest of Nieppe, and Loire and south of Ypres.

The statement reads: "Local fighting took place to our advantage last night in the neighborhood of Villers-Bretonneux. We carried out successful raids south of Arras and east of St. Venant in the course of which ten prisoners and five machine guns were captured by our troops.

The artillery has been active on both sides during the night between Givenchy and the forest de Nieppe in the region of Loire and south of Ypres.

Villers-Bretonneux, which is in British hands, lies about nine miles east of Amiens and has been the scene of four British successes in the past ten days. The British recaptured the village from the Germans in one burst of fighting.

METHODIST CONFERENCE HAS RECORD ATTENDANCE

Quadrennial Session in Atlanta Forwarding Business Features of Church.

(Associated Press.) Atlanta, Ga., May 3.—With the formalities of organization practically completed, the general conference of the Methodist Episcopal church, south, settled down to business today. Bishop Warren A. Candler, of Atlanta, presiding and the opening religious exercises were conducted by Rev. R. M. Cooper of Hopkinsville, Ky.

The roll call showed the largest number of delegates ever present at such an early stage in the conference.

An announcement was made that all committees with the exception of the Epworth league and publishing interests had met and organized. Rev. A. J. Landrum, of Nashville, was chosen chairman of the committee on Episcopacy. Rev. James Cannon, Jr., of Richmond, was made chairman of the committee on church relations.

The report of the general conference committee on the representative church in Washington, D. C., as presented, showed that the building is nearing completion. In round numbers \$11,245 in cash and pledges have been secured from all sources. Of this amount \$22,245 has been collected up to April 30 of this year.

The report of Dr. Geo. S. Sexton, of Shreveport, showed that it will require \$114,000 to pay the balance due on the lot and when the building is completed. It was suggested that the committee be continued until the completion of the building. Further action was recommended to the general conference asking it to provide a sum of at least \$2,500 annually for period of four years for the current expenses of the church.

FRENCH SHIP PROVECE TORPEDOED AND BEACHED

German Submarine Strikes Steamer on Port Side—Seek to Refloat Vessel.

(International News Service.) Paris, May 3.—The French steamship Provenge has been torpedoed by a German submarine and beached in the Mediterranean.

The attack was made on the evening of April 13, the torpedo striking the port side.

The vessel was beached near Palamos, on the Spanish coast, where the work of refloating her is now in progress.

The Provenge is a vessel of 3,241 tons and before the war hailed from Marseilles.

REPORTS DISCREDITED

Deny Mackensen Will Lead Next Drive Against Allies.

EXPECT EARLY RENEWAL OF DRIVE IN FLANDERS

Decisive Failure of German Efforts on Monday Had Depressing Effect—No Abundance of Reserves.

(International News Service.) London, May 3.—The Germans are expected to renew their Flanders offensive without much further delay. The heavy bombardments in the sectors of Villers-Bretonneux on the Picardy front and Merris (on the Flanders front) possibly presage an early resumption of infantry thrusts.

That is the attitude taken by correspondents at the British front. The decisive failure of the German efforts on Monday had a depressing effect upon the enemy. Prisoners complain that too much is expected of them, while at the same time they declare there is no abundance of reserves.

FIRE SWEEPING CANADIAN TOWN

Gets Beyond Control of Fire Fighting Forces—Help Asked From Quebec and Montreal.

(Associated Press.) Three Rivers, Que., May 3.—Fire which broke out in the business section here today quickly destroyed a number of stores and residences and got the better of the local fire fighting forces. Help was asked for from Quebec and Montreal.

By 11 a.m., an hour after the fire started, forty houses on Bonaventure street, the main business thoroughfare, had been destroyed. The flames spread to the near-by streets and families were compelled to leave their houses because of the tremendous heat.

Three Rivers, an industrial and manufacturing city of about 10,000 population and a port of entry, is seventy miles southwest of the city of Quebec. It is on the Canadian Pacific and Grand Trunk railways.

"Three Rivers is the second oldest city in Canada. It was visited by a disastrous fire in 1906 when half of the city was burned.

At noon the damage done was estimated at \$100,000. There had been no loss of life up to that time.

MAJOR PART OF FINNISH RED GUARDS SURRENDER

Twelve Thousand Prisoners Taken by Germans and White Guards.

(International News Service.) Copenhagen, May 3.—The greater part of the red guard army in Finland has surrendered to the Germans and white guard near Lathias, according to information from a Finnish source today.

Twelve thousand prisoners were taken.

Bolshevik artillery has been bombarding the white guards along the Finnish frontier.

WILSON TO GET POWER TO SMASH ESPIONAGE

(International News Service.) Washington, May 3.—An iron ring would be forced around the United States to prevent the entrance or escape of enemy spies, plotters and propagandists, under amendments to the passport regulations considered by the senate today.

The amendments were taken up at the request of President Wilson, who told Chairman Flood, of the foreign relations committee, having charge of the amendments, that they were vitally necessary to give the department of justice a free hand in preventing the escape of enemy agents.

The amendments when adopted will give the president power to deny citizenship or arrest to any person upon the suggestion of the department of justice. Bolshevik agitators could thus be barred. The house was almost unanimous in its approval of the amendments, and their passage was expected late this afternoon.

RUTLEDGE SMITH GETS CALL FOR TENNESSEANS

(Associated Press.) Nashville, May 3.—Major Rutledge Smith, chairman of the council of defense for Tennessee, today received a call from Washington for 12,111 white men for army service to be entrained in five days beginning May 25.

Major Smith stated that the state was ready to meet the large draft.

(Associated Press.) Baton Rouge, La., May 3.—A call for 12,525 men for a new draft from Louisiana was received here today by Adj. Gen. McGary from Provost Marshal General Crowder.

Of this number 6,815 are to be white men and 5,710 negroes. The movement of the white drafted men is ordered to begin within five days from May 25 and the negroes three weeks later.

CROWDER CALLS FOR SKILLED MEN

New Jersey Only State Excepted—75 Occupations Affected by Special Order.

(Associated Press.) Washington, May 3.—Later the provost-marshal general's office announced that the call was for 233,742 men.

Washington, May 3.—The men were ordered to entrain for camp within five days' period beginning May 25. This brings the total number of men called for the month of May, including special classes, to approximately 305,000.

The apportionment among the states includes: Alabama, 6,820; to Camp Sevier, S. C.; Arkansas, 300; to Camp Pike, Ark.; Florida, 4,124; to Camp Gordon, Ga.; Georgia, 878; to Camp Gordon, Ga.; Illinois, 5,000; to Camp Grant, Ill.; 4,168; to Camp Gordon, Ga.; 4,351; to Camp Shelby, Miss.; Louisiana, 3,998; Camp Beauregard, La.

Michigan, 5,000; Camp Wheeler, Mich.; 5,149; Camp Custer, Mich.; Mississippi, 2,000; Camp Pike, Ark.; 1,649; Camp Shelby, Miss.; New York, 6,800; Camp Dix, N. J.; 6,850; Camp Hancock, Ga.; 7,600; Camp Upton, N. Y.; 7,700; Camp Wadsworth, S. C.; 1,380; to Camp Sevier, S. C.

North Carolina, 8,114; to Camp Jackson, S. C.; Ohio, 9,800; Camp Gordon, Ga.; 3,000; Camp Sherman, O.; 7,233; Camp Greentree, S. C.; Oklahoma, 3,400; Camp Bowie, Tex.; 2,449; Fort Riley, Kan.; Pennsylvania, 7,700; Camp Meade, Md.; 4,000; Camp Lee, Va.; 3,000; Camp Humphreys, Va.; 2,923; Camp Greentree, S. C.

South Carolina, 1,900; Camp Jackson, S. C.; 288; Camp Wadsworth, S. C.; Tennessee, 4,130; Camp Pike, Ark.

Texas, 2,200; Camp Cody, N. M.; 1,124; Camp Bowie, Tex.; 5,000; Camp Travis, Tex.

Washington, May 3.—A call for 6,207 skilled men for the national army was sent out today by Provost Marshal-General Crowder. All states are included excepting New Jersey. It directs the movement of the men on May 17.

The men represent about seventy-five occupations. They include chauffeurs, carpenters, engineers, stenographers, telegraph and wireless operators, and welders. They will be attached to the medical corps, the gas, defense service, quartermaster corps, ordnance department, signal corps and corps of engineers. Two hundred and fifty-two negro troops were assigned to the signal corps and ordered to Fort Wayne, Mich.

All of the registrants included in today's call are men who have presented themselves to their local boards for voluntary induction into the military service. It was said at Gen. Crowder's office. Boards were instructed to draft enough to fill their quotas where volunteers were lacking, but it is understood this was not necessary. Included in the assignment were 600 men who will go to engineers at Camp Sheridan, Ala.

MAJ.-GEN. McANDREW MADE CHIEF OF STAFF

With the American Army in France, May 3.—(By the Associated Press.) Maj.-Gen. James McAndrew has been appointed chief of staff of the American expeditionary forces, assuming his duties immediately. Brig.-Gen. James H. Easton, formerly chief of staff, has been assigned to command in the field, which he will take over this week.

BURLESON TO PROBE PNEUMATIC TUBES

(International News Service.) Washington, May 3.—Postmaster-General Burleson was this afternoon charged with making untrue statements and attempting to unfairly influence senators. The charges were made by Senators Bankhead, of Alabama; Hardwick, of Georgia; and Weeks, of Massachusetts, in a letter addressed to every senator in answer to a personal letter sent to all senators by Postmaster-General Burleson protesting against the action of the commission to investigate pneumatic tubes.

The senators signing the letter declare that as members of the investigating commission they feel that Postmaster-General Burleson is attempting to influence congress against their report, which favored the continuance of pneumatic tubes.

FAIR, SAYS BILLY 'POSSUM

"It is time to can the kelly that has sheltered this of bean thru the icy blasts of winter to a spring that's now serene. For the straw lid's now in fashion. But before you're laid away let us ask good Mr. Hoover will there be a fireless day?"

The weather: Fair, with slight change of temperature tonight and to-morrow.

TREMENDOUS CRESCENDO OF GUNFIRE BREAKS OUT

Principal Increase of Artillery Activity Appears to be on Lys Battle Front—British Army Headquarters Reports.

(Associated Press.) British Headquarters in France, via Ottawa, May 3.—A tremendous crescendo of gun fire has broken out this morning, the principal increase being apparently in the Lys region.

The objective time tables of the Germans indicate that they are finding their task to advance in Flanders and on the Somme, where they are yet at a standstill, much heavier than they anticipated.

Last night there was much bombing activity on both sides, the intense airman inflicting heavy casualties.

The Australians carried out successful minor operations at Villers-Bretonneux during the night, while the Canadians mopped up a strong post, taking seven prisoners and five machine guns.

Further north the British rushed a machine gun emplacement, clearing it out and bringing in three survivors of the garrison.

BRITISH SOLDIER GUARDS MANGER IN BETHLEHEM

(Associated Press.) London, April 17.—From Bethlehem a youthful British soldier writes to a friend here: "I am on guard at present, and it is a great honor. I can tell you, that I am guarding the birthplace and manger of our Lord. It is a wonderful place and I never thought when I used to read about it that one day I should stand and guard it. The birthplace is marked by a fourteen-pointed silver star, presented by the French government. The stable is hung with lamps from all different countries, and they look beautiful; and I might add, they are always alight. The manger itself is cut in natural rock, but marble has been put in to keep it in a good state of preservation."

BROOKLYN FLYER GETS HUN SCALP

(Associated Press.) With the American Army in France, Thursday, May 2.—Lieut. James Meissner, whose home is in Brooklyn, and who brought down his first German airplane today on the American front northwest of Toul, returned to his hangar to receive the congratulations of his comrades and to make his report with a bashful grin on his face.

The lieutenant is young and slight with his wings, and he has one e-m-y scalp hanging to his belt.

The story of his exploit having trickled in over the telephone wire, the correspondent went to the lieutenant's headquarters. He had been reported that a wing of his opponent's airplane, "Impossible," said one of the members of Meissner's squadron before the young aviator had returned to his unit. "If the plane really had crashed Jimmy with his wings, we could have called on the Red Cross to make inquiries through Switzerland as to what had happened to him."

GREAT LAKES COMPANIES HINDERING CONDUCT WAR

(Associated Press.) Washington, May 3.—Charges that the steamship companies represented in the Lake Carriers' association are hindering the conduct of the war by sapping the strength of Atlantic coast shipping through inducing mariners to leave the ocean for the Great Lakes were made today at the shipping labor conference by Victor Olander, of the Lake Steamers' union.

PRESENT FUTILE DRIVE WILL NOT STOP HUNS—TRY AGAIN

(International News Service.) Paris, May 3.—"It would be a grave error to believe that the German will be deterred by their present failure," writes Maurice Barres in the Echo de Paris. "We may rest assured that the German army is determined to end the war through military operations this year, if possible."

"STRENGTH IN MANPOWER WILL DECIDE," SAYS TAFT

(Associated Press.) Greensboro, N. C., May 3.—There is but one question before the American people today, and that is to win the war, said former President Wm. H. Taft, who will speak to the people of Greensboro tonight on questions relating to the great war. "In order to win the war it is necessary that the government, as quickly as possible, coordinate all activities to this end. The people of America might as well face the fact that this war will last three or perhaps five years longer, and that supremacy in manpower will be the deciding factor."

NEED TO ADJUST INDUSTRY TO STRAIN OF WAR FINANCE

(International News Service.) New York, May 3.—The necessity of adjusting industry to the strain of war finance was the keynote of a message brought home here today to cotton manufacturers of the north and south when their meeting was resumed at the Biltmore hotel.

Charles H. Rubin, president of the Guaranty Trust company of New York, delivered the principal address. John A. Stevens, of Lowell, Mass., was presented with a medal for having contributed most to the advance of the cotton industry during the war.

FRENCH ADVANCE LINE IN PICARDY

Success Also Achieved Further South on Front Southeast of Amiens.

HILL 82 IS CAPTURED

Area Gained Between Hailles and Castel When Teutons Are Attacked.

(Associated Press.) Paris, May 3.—The French made an attack late yesterday on the front between Hailles and Castel, southeast of Amiens, and captured Hill 82 and the wood on the Ave river nearby, the war office announced.

French troops also gained ground near Villers-Bretonneux, on the Amiens front, the war office announced.

The statement follows: "In the region south of Villers-Bretonneux there was violent artillery firing by both of the combatants, as well as fairly spirited infantry engagements near the monument in the course of which the French troops gained some ground.

"South of the Ave the French late yesterday carried out a local operation which met with perfect success. Our troops attacked the German positions between Hailles and Castel (a front of about one and one-fourth miles). We took possession of Hill 82 and the wood bordering on the Ave. The number of prisoners taken exceeds 100, including four officers. In the region of the Allette the French repulsed a German raiding party. French reconnoitering detachments were active, especially in the Woivre and in Lorraine, bringing back prisoners."

HOLD SENATE IN SESSION ALL NIGHT IF NECESSARY

(International News Service.) Washington, May 3.—Administration officials today threatened to hold the senate in session all night if necessary to wear down the opposition to the new espionage bill, strengthening the powers of the postmaster general over the postmaster's corps.

Immediately after the senate met this afternoon, Senator Overman, in charge of the bill, tried to get unanimous consent to curtail debate and bring the measure to a final vote. Senator Sherman, of Illinois, emphatically objected.

"I'll make the senate stay here all night, if necessary, to pass the bill," said Senator Overman. "The attorney general wants this bill most urgently. He tells me he is helpless without it."

TO MAKE SWEEPING PROBE

Way Paved by Charges Against Aircraft Program.

(International News Service.) Washington, May 3.—The way was paved today for a sweeping investigation of the aircraft program, to include the aircraft program, ordnance production and the quartermaster's corps.

This was stated following a meeting of the senate military affairs committee, at which Guston Burghum's charges of criminal profiteering in the billion-dollar aircraft program were again discussed.

AIRMEN NOT IN DISGUISE

Spain Asked to Require Germany to Prove Charges.

(Associated Press.) Washington, May 3.—In addition to denying officially the German charge that American aviators have gone to France under the guise of ambulance men and Y. M. C. A. attendants, the state department today requested the Spanish government to require the German government to produce proof of the allegation.

PREVENTING REGISTRATION PLOT AGAINST GOVERNMENT

(Associated Press.) Richmond, Va., May 3.—Efforts to prevent the registration of men for military service is declared to be conspiracy against the government, in an opinion by the United States circuit court of appeals, handed down here today affirming a decision rendered in the district court in Huntington, W. Va.

Edward Fitch, Hilton Blas, Ben Green and Henry Flowers were charged with conspiracy in circulating a printed circular.

FORMER PRESIDENT TAFT MATCHES WILSON—BUYS BOND

(Associated Press.) Raleigh, N. C., May 3.—Former President William H. Taft "matched" President Wilson when he subscribed for another \$50 bond at a liberty loan meeting at Elizabeth City, N. C., last night, it became known on the arrival here today of Mr. Taft. Mr. Taft spent several hours in Raleigh today en route to Greensboro.

SENATE AGAIN APPROVES GUARANTEED WHEAT PRICE

Washington, May 2.—The senate today again formally recorded its self in favor of increasing the government minimum guaranteed price for wheat from \$2 to \$2.50 per bushel, despite rejection of the proposal by the house. The senate insisted upon the wheat clause in the agricultural appropriation bill, returning the measure in conference.